

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An electrically powered toothbrush comprising a head which supports a bristle carrier, the head being connected to or connectable to a grip handle, the bristle carrier being moveable by an electric motor in the toothbrush to provide a cleaning effect, and incorporating an electric power supply which comprises a capacitor capable of containing sufficient electric charge to drive the motor for a tooth cleaning session,

in combination with a charging unit which incorporates an electricity supply [comprising one or more replaceable or rechargeable battery cell, and] having an electrical connection means connectable to a corresponding connection on the toothbrush to enable electrical connection between the capacitor and the charging [station] unit, and with which the toothbrush may be connected, and wherein the charging unit comprises means to apply a charging voltage V1 to the capacitor when the toothbrush is connected to the unit, and means operable by a user of the toothbrush to temporarily apply a charging voltage V2 higher than V1 to the capacitor after application of charging voltage V1 and prior to use of the toothbrush.

2. (Previously Presented) A combination according to claim 1 wherein the capacitor provides electric power sufficient to drive the motor for a tooth cleaning session of two minutes or more.

3. (Previously Presented) A combination according to claim 1 wherein the capacitor is capable of delivering 0.6W electric power for the tooth cleaning session.

4. (Previously Presented) A combination according to claim 1 wherein the capacitor has a capacity of 15 - 50 Farad.

5. (Previously Presented) A combination according to claim 4 wherein the capacitor has a capacity of 16 – 22 Farad.

6. (Previously Presented) A combination according to claim 3 wherein the capacitor has a working output voltage of 1-5 - 3V.

7. (Previously Presented) A combination according to claim 1 wherein the capacitor is an electrochemical double layer capacitor.

8. (Previously Presented) A combination according to claim 1 wherein the toothbrush incorporates an electric power supply which comprises a single capacitor.

Claim 9 (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A combination according to claim [9] 1 wherein voltage V1 is equal to or above the charging input voltage of the capacitor.

11. (Currently Amended) A combination according to claim [9] 1 wherein the capacitor can be charged and maintained charged by the voltage V1.

12. (Currently Amended) A combination according to claim [9] 1 wherein V1 is 2 - 3 volts.

13. (Currently Amended) A combination according to claim [9] 1 wherein V2 is 3 - 4 volts.

14. (Currently Amended) A combination according to claim [9] 1 adapted that voltage V2 may be applied for 10 seconds or less.

15. (Currently Amended) A combination according to claim [9] 1 wherein the charging unit is constructed to connect the capacitor to a first number of replaceable cells to apply V1, then to a second, larger, number of replaceable cells to apply V2.

16. (Currently Amended) A combination according to claim [9] 1 wherein the charging unit or toothbrush includes a resistor in series with the replaceable or rechargeable cells when they deliver V1.

17. (Currently Amended) A combination according to claim [9] 1 wherein the charging unit is constructed to be connected to the electricity mains so as to derive charging and boost voltages V1 and V2 from the mains supply.

18. (Currently Amended) A combination according to claim [9] 1 wherein the charging unit incorporates a biased switch which is operated by the user against the bias to apply the voltage V2, then when the user ceases to operate the switch the bias disconnects the voltage V2.

19. (Currently Amended) A combination according to claim [9] 1 wherein the toothbrush includes circuitry to discharge the capacitor if it is left charged at V2 and not used.

Claims 20 and 21 (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) A combination according to claim 1 wherein the motor is connected to the bristle carrier by a transmission mean which causes the bristle carrier to move in a motion in which the bristle carrier moves reciprocally along a reciprocation axis, and simultaneously performs oscillatory rotation about the reciprocation axis as a rotation axis.

23. (Currently Amended) A charging unit for a combination as claimed in claim [9] 1.

Claims 24 and 25 (Cancelled)

26. (New) A combination according to claim 1 wherein the power supply comprises one or more replaceable or rechargeable battery cell.